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Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

For Immediate Release – July 21, 2014 Linda Mutch (559) 565-3703

Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks Institute Fire Restrictions

Due to very high fire danger, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks are instituting additional fire restrictions inside the parks. Beginning Monday, July 28, 2014:

- No wood or barbecue fires are permitted at Potwisha, Buckeye Flat, or South Fork campgrounds.
- No wood or barbecue fires are permitted at Ash Mountain and Hospital Rock picnic areas.
- No wood or barbecue fires are permitted below 6,000 feet in the parks' wilderness or backcountry areas. Year-round, site-specific wilderness fire restrictions also apply.
- No smoking below 6,000 feet is permitted, except within a campground or picnic area where wood and charcoal fires are allowed, an enclosed vehicle, a designated smoking area, or a building which allows smoking.

Gas, propane, alcohol, and tablet/cube stoves are allowed at all park campgrounds and picnic areas and throughout all elevation zones in the wilderness. Wood or barbecue fires are allowed at park campgrounds in the Cedar Grove, Grant Grove, Dorst, Lodgepole, and Mineral King areas and in all picnic areas other than Ash Mountain and Hospital Rock.

Fire restrictions reduce the probability of an accidental human-caused fire that could threaten visitors and employees during times of high fire danger.

These National Park Service restrictions will remain in effect until further notice. If further restrictions are necessary due to changing conditions, the parks will make another public announcement. Be sure to check bulletin boards or the visitor centers for the most current regulations when you visit the parks.

Visitors to Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, by following these steps, can help ensure that their visit is safe, enjoyable, and helps to prevent unwanted fire.

Would you like more information about fire? Go to www.nps.gov/seki and click on *Fire in the Parks* under Quicklinks.

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